

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 166958 TOSEC 070028

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ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY EB/ORF:JLKATZ:MH

APPROVED BY EB:TOENDERS

E:MR. ROBINSON

C:MR. SHINN

EUR/SOV:MKOVNER

H:MR. GOLDBERG

S/S -O:MMTANNER

S: JCOVEY

----- 068905

O 160157Z JUL 75 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 166958 TOSEC 070028

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAGR

SUBJECT: ACTION MEMORANDUM TO THE SECRETARY FROM ENDERS:
REPLY TO SENATOR JACKSON'S LETTER (S/S 7514379).

1. FOLLOWING FOR YOUR APPROVAL IS DRAFT LETTER REPLYING
TO SENATOR JACKSON'S REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON PROSPECTIVE
SOVIET GRAIN PURCHASES. (JACKSON MESSAGE REPEATED TO YOU
AS TOSEC 70005). THIS DRAFT HAS BEEN CLEARED BY UNDER
SECRETARY ROBINSON, EUR, H, C. IF YOU APPROVE, WE WILL
SEND LETTER TOMORROW (JULY 16).

2. BEGIN TEXT. DEAR SENATOR JACKSON: THE SECRETARY HAS
ASKED ME TO REPLY TO YOUR TELEGRAM OF JULY 14 REQUESTING
INFORMATION ABOUT PROSPECTIVE PURCHASES OF U.S. GRAINS
BY THE SOVIET UNION.

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B. WE HAVE NO FIRM INFORMATION AT THIS POINT ON THE AMOUNT OF GRAIN THE SOVIETS ARE SEEKING FROM THE INTERNATIONAL GRAIN MARKET, OR FROM THE U.S., NOR ABOUT THE BREAKDOWN BETWEEN FOOD AND FEED GRAINS. FROM VARIOUS SOURCES, THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE HAS ESTIMATED THAT THE USSR MAY BE SEEKING AS MUCH AS 10 TO 15 MILLION METRIC TON OF GRAIN WORLDWIDE. TO DATE, HOWEVER, NO FIRM CONTRACTS HAVE BEEN CONCLUDED, TO THE BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE.

4. THERE IS NO FORMAL AGREEMENT OBLIGATING THE USSR TO INFORM THE U.S. GOVERNMENT OF ITS GRAIN IMPORT REQUIREMENTS, NOR IS THERE AN AGREEMENT ON THE MAXIMUM QUANTITY OF GRAIN AVAILABLE TO THE SOVIET UNION FROM THE U.S. MARKET. WE HAVE, HOWEVER, MADE CLEAR TO THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT OUR EXPECTATION THAT WE WILL BE INFORMED IN ADVANCE OF LARGE SOVIET GRAIN PURCHASES. WE HAVE MADE IT CLEAR, MOREOVER, THAT IN THE ABSENCE OF SUCH PRIOR INFORMATION WE CANNOT ASSURE THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT THAT ITS GRAIN IMPORT REQUIREMENTS CAN BE MET FROM U.S. SUPPLIES.

5. AS YOU KNOW, THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE CONTINUES TO MAINTAIN THE EXPORT SALES REPORTING SYSTEM WHICH REQUIRES REPORTS ON SALES TO ONE DESTINATION IN ONE DAY OF 100,000 TONS OR MORE. IN ADDITION, ALL EXPORT SALES ARE REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED ON A WEEKLY BASIS. AS OF JULY 15, NO LARGE RECENT SALES OF U.S. GRAINS TO THE SOVIET UNION HAVE BEEN REPORTED.

6. I HOPE THAT THIS INFORMATION IS RESPONSIVE TO THE NEEDS OF THE PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS. SINCERELY, ROBERT J. MCCLOSKEY.

7. RECOMMENDATION: THAT YOU APPROVE THE TRANSMITTAL OF THIS LETTER.

APPROVE DISAPPROVE

8. THIS HAS BEEN CLEARED BY E, C, H, AND SOV. INGERSOLL

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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